

IN THE CLAIMS

Pursuant to 37 CFR §121(c), the claim listing, including the text of the claims, will serve to replace all prior versions of the claims, in the application.

Please cancel claims 28 and 30 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 21, 24, 29, 31, 37, 40 and 42 as follows:

Claims 1-20. (Canceled)

1 21. (Currently Amended) A device for collecting and processing folded printed
2 products, comprising

3 a collection drum rotatably drivable about its drum axis and comprised of first
4 rests with first saddles, said first rests being uniformly distributed over [[the]] a
5 circumference and extending in their longitudinal extension parallel to the drum axis, ~~as~~
6 ~~well as~~ and conveyor elements for conveying the printed products on the first saddles in
7 the axial direction along the firsts rests, and

8 a conveyor device comprising a revolving conveyor having an upper side and a
9 lower side, a conveyor path with a ~~conveyor~~ conveying direction which at least in a
10 transfer region deviates from the axial direction, second rests ~~movable in~~ movably
11 supported on rails along the conveyor path, and second saddles arranged distanced to one
12 another and arranged transversely to the conveying direction, with the conveyor device in
13 the transfer region arranged adjacent to an end of the collection drum to enable carriage

14 of the printed products to be transferred from an end to the conveyor device or vice versa,
15 and the second rests being ~~movable~~ movably propelled along the conveyor path
16 independently from the collection drum.

1 22. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 21, further comprising at least one
2 station positioned radially on an inside of the revolving conveyor, disposed to modify
3 printed products carried by the revolving conveyor.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 21, further comprising a
2 securement system disposed along the lower side hindering printed products from
3 escaping from carriage with the second rests.

1 24. (Currently Amended) A device for collecting and processing folded printed
2 products, comprising

3 a collection drum comprising a terminal end and a plurality of first rests
4 bearing first saddles, said first rests being uniformly distributed over a circumference of
5 the collection drum and extending in a longitudinal direction away from the terminal end
6 and parallel to an axis of the collection drum to convey the printed products borne by the
7 first saddles in an axial direction along the firsts rests, the collection drum being
8 rotatably drivable about the axis of the collection drum; and

9 a conveyor device being detachable from the collection drum and rotatably

10 drivable independently of the conveyor drum, and when positioned in operationally
11 cooperative proximity to the terminal end of the collection drum, enabling the end of the
12 collection drum to define a transfer region of the conveyor device, the conveyor device
13 comprising second rests ~~movable~~ supported on rails along the conveyor path bearing
14 second saddles arranged spaced-apart from one another and arranged transversely to the
15 conveying direction to define a conveyor path with a conveyor direction able to deviate in
16 the transfer region from the axial direction, the conveyor device accommodating within
17 the transfer region a transfer of the printed products between the first rests at the
18 collection drum terminal end and the second rests of the conveyor device.

1 25. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 24, comprising the
2 conveyor device accommodating operating conditions with selected ones of wire saddle
3 stitching stations, adhering stations, and an additional collection station disposed to
4 directly modify the printed products while the printed products are carried by the
5 conveyor device on an upper side of the conveyor device.

1 26. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 25, comprising bending
2 elements integrated with the second rests, and at least one stapling apparatus
3 operationally aligned with the conveyor assembly as a working station operationally
4 engaging the bending elements.

1 27. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 26, comprising the
2 stapling apparatus being movably mounted on a rail guided approximately parallel to the
3 conveyor path.

1 28. (Cancelled).

1 29. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim ~~28~~ 21, comprised of the
2 second rests traversing a side opposite the second saddles being supported on at least one
3 rail.

1 30. (Cancelled).

1 31. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim ~~30~~ 22, comprised of the
2 second rests traversing sides opposite the second saddles being supported on at least one
3 rail.

1 32. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 24, comprised of the
2 conveyor device selectively accommodating operating connections with selected ones of
3 inserting stations, binding stations, wire saddle stitching stations, adhering stations, and
4 an additional collection station disposed to directly modify the printed products while the
5 printed products are carried by the conveyor device.

1 33. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 24, comprised of the
2 second saddles for the second rests along the complete conveyor path are movable in
3 parallel and spaced-apart by a predefined, equal distance from one another, and conveyor
4 device being disposed to cooperate with the second rests closest to the saddle.

1 34. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 24, comprised of a
2 plurality of working stations allocated to the conveyor device in an exchangeable
3 sequence.

1 35. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 24, comprising bending
2 fixtures integrated with the second rests, and at least one stapling apparatus operationally
3 aligned with the conveyor device as a working station movably mounted on a rail guided
4 parallel to the conveyor path.

1 36. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 24, wherein the conveyor
2 device comprises a revolving conveyor with an upper and a lower side with an essentially
3 horizontal conveyor path.

1 37. (Currently Amended) A device for collecting and processing folded printed
2 products, comprising:

3 a collection drum rotatably drivable about a drum axis, the collection
4 drum comprising first rests bearing first saddles, said first rests being uniformly
5 distributed over a circumference of the collection drum and extending away from a
6 terminal end of the collection drum in a longitudinal direction parallel to the drum axis to
7 convey any printed products on the first saddles in the longitudinal direction along the
8 firsts rests; and

9 a conveyor assembly comprising a conveyor path exhibiting a conveyor
10 direction able to deviate in the transfer region from the axial direction, second rests
11 arranged spaced-apart from one another, movably supported on rails and disposed
12 transversely to the conveying direction, and a carriage unit detached from the collection
13 drum and disposed to propel the second rests along the conveyor path, said conveyor
14 assembly being operatively cooperative with the collection drum while detached from the
15 collection drum and forming a transfer region when operatively arranged adjacent to a
16 terminal end of the collection drum to accommodate transfer of the printed products
17 between the first saddles at the terminal end of the collection drum and the conveyor
18 assembly.

1 38. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 37, comprised of the
2 second rests bearing bending fixtures, and at least one stapling apparatus movably
3 mounted on a rail guided parallel to the conveyor path in operational alignment with the
4 bending fixtures.

1 39. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 37, comprised of the
2 conveyor assembly selectively accommodating operating connections with selected ones
3 of inserting stations, binding stations, wire saddle stitching stations, adhering stations,
4 and an additional collection station disposed to directly modify the printed products
5 while the printed products are carried by the conveyor device, with the stations being
6 allocated to the conveyor device in an exchangeable sequence.

1 40. (Currently Amended) A device for collecting and processing folded printed
2 products, comprising:

3 a collection drum rotatably driveable about a drum axis, said collection
4 drum comprising a terminal end bearing first rests with first saddles, said first rests being
5 uniformly distributed over a circumference and extending in longitudinal directions away
6 from the terminal end parallel to the drum axis to convey the printed products on the first
7 saddles in the longitudinal directions along the firsts rests; and

8 a conveyor assembly positionable independently of the collection drum,
9 said conveyor assembly comprising a plurality of second rests movably supported on
10 rails, said second rests bearing a plurality of second saddles distanced apart from one
11 another and arranged transversely to the conveying direction, and a conveyor unit
12 rotatably drivable independently of the collection drum to propel the second saddles
13 along a conveyor path with orientation of the second saddles being disposed to deviate in

14 a transfer region from the axial direction, said conveyor path being selectively alignable
15 the drum axis in proximity to the terminal end of the collection drum to form a transfer
16 region to accommodate transfer of the printed products between the first saddles at the
17 terminal end and the second saddles.

1 41. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 40, comprising bending
2 elements integrated with the second rests, and at least one stapling apparatus
3 operationally aligned with the conveyor assembly as a working station operationally
4 engaging the bending elements, the stapling apparatus being movably mounted on a rail
5 guided approximately parallel to the conveyor path.

1 42. (Currently Amended) A device for collecting and processing folded printed
2 products, comprising:

3 a collection drum rotatably driveable about a hub exhibiting a drum axis,
4 the collection drum providing a terminal portion forming a transfer region, said terminal
5 portion comprising first rests bearing first saddles, said first rests being uniformly
6 distributed over a circumference and extending in longitudinal extension parallel to the
7 drum axis, and conveyor elements arrayed to convey the printed products on the first
8 saddles in an axial directions along the firsts saddles; and

9 a conveyor assembly comprising a plurality of second rests movably
10 supported on rails, said second rests bearing a plurality of spaced-apart second saddles

11 and a conveyor unit rotatably drivable independently of the collection drum and disposed
12 to propel the second saddles along the conveyor path to accommodate within said transfer
13 region of the collection drum, transfer of printed products between the first rests and the
14 plurality of second rests as the second rests are propelled by the conveyor assembly along
15 the conveyor path, the second saddles being disposed to deviate in the transfer region
16 from an axial alignment with the second axis while providing alignment between the first
17 saddles and the second saddles within the transfer region.

1 43. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 42, comprised of bending
2 elements integrated with the second saddles, and at least one stapling apparatus
3 operationally aligned with the conveyor assembly as a working station operationally
4 engaging the bending elements, the stapling apparatus being movably mounted on a rail
5 guided approximately parallel to the conveyor path.